

## WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A cup seal which is received in a concavity and comprises an annular base portion which radially extends and through which a slidable member is slidably inserted, 5 an annular inner lip which extends axially from the inner peripheral side end of the base portion and through which the slidable member is slidably inserted, and an annular outer lip which extends axially from the outer peripheral side end of the base portion and is in contact with a 10 bottom wall of said concavity such that the outer lip can be spaced apart from the bottom wall, wherein the cup seal is formed to have a laterally-facing U-shaped section, wherein base side fluid passage grooves are formed in said base portion to radially extend to allow communication 15 between the outer peripheral side and the inner peripheral side of said base portion.

2. A cup seal as claimed in claim 1, wherein said base side fluid passage grooves are designed to have such a width not to collapse said base side fluid passage grooves 20 when hydraulic fluid flows through said base side fluid passage grooves.

3. A cup seal as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein lip side fluid passage grooves are formed in said inner lip to radially extend and to open the front end of said inner lip.

25 4. A cup seal as claimed in any one of claims 1 through 3, wherein said inner lip is formed to be thicker than that of said outer lip.

5. A master cylinder comprising a cylinder body

having a cylinder bore, a piston which is slidably inserted into said cylinder bore and defines a fluid pressure chamber, a communication path which is formed in said cylinder body and communicates with a reservoir, a relief port which is formed in said piston, always communicates with said fluid pressure chamber, and allows communication between said communication path and said fluid pressure chamber, and a sealing member which is received in a concavity formed in the inner periphery of the cylinder bore of said cylinder body and into which the piston is slidably inserted so as to seal between the inner peripheral surface of said cylinder bore and the outer peripheral surface of said piston, wherein communication between said communication path and said relief port is allowed when the master cylinder is inoperative, and the communication between said communication path and said relief port is isolated by movement of said piston when the master cylinder is operative, wherein

said sealing member is composed of a cup seal as claimed in any one of claims 1 through 4, and said base side fluid passage grooves communicate with said communication path.

6. A master cylinder as claimed in claim 5, wherein a space allowing communication between said relief port and said communication path via said base side fluid passage grooves when the master cylinder is inoperative is formed between said cup seal and said relief port.